

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A camera comprising:

a movable lens barrel movable between a collapsed position, a wide-angle position and a telephoto position, contained in a camera body when in said collapsed position, set more forward when in said wide-angle position than when in said collapsed position, and set more forward when in said telephoto position than when in said wide-angle position, for holding a taking lens;

a flash emitting unit movable between a contained position and a flashing position, contained in said camera body when in said contained position, and set out of said camera body when in said flashing position, and adapted to emit flash light to a photographic field;

a motor disposed in said camera body, for rotating forwards to move said movable lens barrel toward said telephoto position, and for rotating backwards to move said movable lens barrel toward said collapsed position;

a transmission gear mechanism for transmitting rotation of said motor to move said movable lens barrel;

a ring-shaped gear, disposed about said movable lens barrel in a rotatable manner, for rotating in a first direction when said motor rotates forwards, and for rotating in a second direction when said motor rotates backwards;

a transmission ring disposed about said movable lens barrel in a rotatable manner in said first and second directions;

a transmission mechanism, responsive to rotation of said ring-shaped gear, for rotating said transmission ring

while said movable lens barrel moves between said collapsed position and said wide-angle position; and

a linking mechanism, responsive to rotation of said transmission ring, for moving said flash emitting unit
5 between said contained position and said flashing position.

2. A camera as defined in claim 1, further comprising a stationary barrel, formed to project forwards from said camera body, for supporting said movable lens barrel movably in forward and backward directions;

10 wherein said ring-shaped gear and said transmission ring are secured to an outer surface of said stationary barrel in a rotatable manner.

3. A camera as defined in claim 2, wherein said ring-shaped gear and said transmission ring are adjacent with
15 one another in an optical axis direction of said movable lens barrel.

4. A camera as defined in claim 2, wherein said transmission mechanism includes:

first and second pressing projections for projecting
20 from said ring-shaped gear;

a first biasing element for biasing said transmission ring, to rotate said transmission ring in said first direction;

a first stopper for blocking rotation of said
25 transmission ring rotating in said first direction, said first stopper operating for blocking rotationally when said movable lens barrel is moved from said collapsed position to said wide-angle position;

first and second engaging projections for projecting
30 from said transmission ring in an engageable manner with respectively said first and second pressing projections,

wherein when said ring-shaped gear rotates in said first direction, said transmission ring is caused by said first biasing element to rotate in said first direction, said first and second engaging projections rotating
5 simultaneously with said first and second pressing projections, and when said ring-shaped gear rotates in said second direction, said transmission ring is caused to rotate in said second direction by pressing of said first and second pressing projection to said first and second
10 engaging projections.

5. A camera as defined in claim 4, wherein said first and second pressing projections are disposed away from one another substantially by one flat angle, said first and second engaging projections are disposed away from one
15 another substantially by one flat angle, and rotation of said ring gear is transmitted by couple of force to said transmission ring.

6. A camera as defined in claim 5, wherein said first and second pressing projections are positioned at radii
20 different from one another with respect to a rotational center thereof, and also said first and second engaging projections are positioned at radii different from one another with respect to said rotational center.

7. A camera as defined in claim 6, wherein said first
25 and second engaging portions are disposed to extend in an arc shape.

8. A camera as defined in claim 4, wherein said linking mechanism further includes:

a shaft for rotationally supporting said flash
30 emitting unit movably between said contained position and said flashing position;

a first transmission lever rotatable in response to rotation of said transmission ring; and

a second transmission lever for being rotated in a third or fourth direction in response to rotation of said first transmission lever, for moving said flash emitting unit from said contained position to said flashing position when rotated in said third direction, and for moving said flash emitting unit from said flashing position to said contained position when rotated in said fourth direction.

9. A camera as defined in claim 8, wherein said linking mechanism further includes a second biasing element for connecting said first and second transmission levers with one another for rotation thereof together, and for allowing said second transmission lever to rotate in said third direction when said flash emitting unit moves from said contained position forcibly to said flashing position during a stop of said first transmission lever.

10. A camera as defined in claim 9, wherein said linking mechanism further includes:

a third biasing element for biasing said flash emitting unit toward said flashing position; and

an arm, formed on said flash emitting unit, for contacting said second transmission lever, wherein when said second transmission lever rotates in said third direction, said arm is caused by said third biasing element to move said flash emitting unit toward said flashing position simultaneously with said second transmission lever, and when said second transmission lever rotates in said fourth direction, said arm is pressed by said second transmission lever to move said flash emitting unit toward said contained position.

11. A camera as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

a flash circuit for driving said flash emitting unit to emit said flash light;

5 a switch, connected with said flash circuit, for being changed over by shifting of said flash emitting unit, and for inhibiting driving of said flash emitting unit when said flash emitting unit is in said contained position.

12. A camera as defined in claim 11, further
10 comprising a second stopper for preventing said flash emitting unit from moving beyond said flashing position.

13. A camera as defined in claim 11, wherein said switch is disposed at a moving path of said arm, and is changed over by said arm.

15 14. A camera as defined in claim 12, wherein said second stopper becomes engaged with said arm for preventing said flash emitting unit from moving.